SOUTH EAST

BERKSHIRE COLLEGE Hall Place, Burchetta Green, Maidenhead, Berkshire SL6 6QR. Tel: 01628 824444 Fax: 01628 824695.

Craft, Supervisory and approved at Regional

Cannington College

GREENMOUNT Training Centres, Currently GTC approved for training courses up to Craft level only.

SOUTH WEST

ELMWOOD COLLEGE Curragh, Rafe KY15 4LB. Contact Carol Borthwick. Tel: 01334 659810 Fax: 01334 659818. Short specialist courses - Safe use of pesticides. - Chainsaw operation. - Forklift driving

SCOTLAND

LANGSIDE COLLEGE, Glasgow School of Horticulture, Woodburn House, Buchanan Drive, Rutherglen G73 3PE. Contact Colin S Leppert. Tel: 0141 847 6366. SOA National Certificate - 2 years day release or 1 year full time. Higher National Certificate in Golf Course Management - 2 years day release, SVQ Level II Amenity Horticulture with Greenkeeping options plus a range of NC and HNC Horticulture programmes including G SVQ Level III. Short courses on a range of subjects including Tractor Operations and the Safe Use of Pesticides.

IRELAND

GREENMOUNT COLLEGE Greenmount College of Agriculture and Horticulture, Aughrim, BT41 4PU. Contact Henry Shaw. Tel: 016169 42666. Day release courses leading to (a) GTC Certificate/NVQ Level II Greenkeeping and Sports Turf Management or (b) GTC Certificate/NVQ Level III Golf Course Supervision.

WELSH COLLEGE OF HORTICULTURE / SDA TRAINING LIMITED, Northop, Mold, Flintshire, CH7 6AA. Tel 01352 841100. Fax 01352 841101. Internet: http://www.welshcollege.co.uk. Full-time Courses: BTED National Diploma. SQA (Hanc) Horticulture, FEPA (Hanc) Horticulture. / GTC: Greenkeeping Practice, NVQ Level 3 Greenkeeping Supervision, City & Guilds Phase IV Management Studies, GTC: Greenkeeping Certificate, GTC: Certificate in Golf Course Supervision, FEPA. Short courses: Chainsaws. All courses other than Phase IV are offered on block release. Full residential facilities available. Sparsholt college provides education and training in the land-based industries.

Please note that all the college details published in this guide were supplied by the colleges themselves. Greenkeeper International takes no responsibility for accuracy of information provided. Contact the colleges directly for further information.
The Hayter International Cup will be played in the week beginning October 11, 1998. Scott MacCallum takes a closer look at the tournament, and the company behind it...

A return match to savour

If the second Hayter International Cup is anything like as exciting as the first it will be an occasion which will be remembered by all those lucky enough to be involved for many years to come.

Then, the Americas team emerged triumphant from a day at West Lancs Golf Club, near Liverpool, which saw fortunes ebb and flow and the result in doubt until the very last green of the very last match.

Non-Playing Captain, Bruce Williams, eventually accepted the trophy in recognition of a 10-8 winning scoreline, but the occasion will be most remembered for the experiences off as well as on the golf course.

"I will never forget the electric atmosphere we all experienced on the balcony overlooking the 18th green that day as the match reached its dramatic conclusion," said Kim Macfie, Sales and Marketing Director of Hayter and the man whose original concept had become a thrilling reality.

"While the result was all important when the golf was going on, as soon as the hand shakes were completed it was almost irrelevant as it was the forging friendships perhaps rather than the holing of putts that meant the most," said Kim.

It is a lot to expect that the second playing of the Hayter International Cup will live up to its predecessor but you can be sure that those who are preparing for the October date will not be disappointed.

Unlike the first match, the second Hayter International Cup will be played over three courses on three days in Atlanta, Georgia - Cherokee Town and Country Club, the Golf Club of Georgia and Peachtree GC, venue for the 1989 Walker Cup match - with the format close to that used in the Ryder Cup which without fail these days produces excitement by the barrel load.

"I am really looking forward to the return match and am sure that the memories I take away from Atlanta will complement those I treasure from two years ago," said Kim.

The Hayter International Cup was a natural follow-on from the Hayter Challenge which was such an integral part of BIGGA's members golfing season for five years from 1992.

The qualifying format of playing sectional and regional events to gain a place to represent the Region in a National Final ensured that the competition was a focal part of the year with the chance of visiting one of the best courses in the country for the final a real incentive to play well.

It was from the last Hayter Challenge final, held at the wonderful Ganton club, near Scarborough, last October, that the four UK-based qualifiers for the Rest of the World team were selected.

Andy Sheehan, Nick Webber, Derek Wilson and Russell Lewis will represent England, Ireland, Scotland and Wales respectively and all played out of their skins on behalf of their Region, in the knowledge that success would also win them a place on the plane to Georgia.

Next month we will take a closer look at the courses chosen for the Match.

52 Years Old - and in its Prime

Hayter celebrated its 50th birthday with a lavish dinner at the Ironmonger's Hall in the City of London two years ago at which the honoured guest was Doug Hayter, the man whose inspiration and name had launched the company.

In the 1940s Doug had designed a lawn mower for his own personal use which proved so successful that friends, impressed by the quality of the cut it was giving the Hayter lawns, asked Doug to make one for them as well.

From those little acorns has grown a company which has its own Bishops Stortford factory, a staff of over 200 and an annual turnover of around £20 million.

Doug Hayter, now in his 80s, is no longer at the helm as the company is now owned by Tomkins, one of the UK's biggest multi-nationals with...
sales in excess of £4.6 billion last year alone. This ensures that when investment is needed, in either research and development or perhaps new tooling, the money is there to do it and that the company’s Mission Statement of “Simply the Best” is not just an impossible dream.

A journey through the Hayter factory shows the fruits of this, with “3D” computer aided design equipment on the first floor as well as robot controlled machinery and a state-of-the-art powder paint plant on the shop floor. The latter of which ensures that every machine leaves the factory sporting the distinctive green livery in an immaculate finish.

The Hayter portfolio of equipment is highly regarded across the board in the domestic, where it is regarded as without peer, the local authority and in the golf markets. “We have had a superb year in the domestic market so far and are having trouble keeping on top of the orders,” explained Kim, while he recalls the 96 Hayter International Cup fondly as an occasion when he sold equipment to some of the Canadian competitors.

“That was not the purpose of the event. We are keen to facilitate the coming together of greenkeepers from throughout the world but if we can also sell some machines while we are there it’s the icing on the cake,” he smiled.

“The fact that the Canadians hadn’t seen Hayter equipment until their visit to West Lancs says much for the impact it made on them,” added Kim, whose name within the industry is as respected as the machinery he sells.

The Hayter International Cup will be played in the week beginning October 11, 1998. The Americas team to defend the cup will be announced shortly.
Central

Regrettfully, I begin this month with the sad news of the recent death of one of our members, Steve Devlin. Steve was assistant greenkeeper at Drumoig GC and died at the age of 31. (See Letters Page).

Our sincere condolences go to Steve's family and fiancee, Hayley, at this very trying time.

Past Chairman, Jimmy Lees, was in hospital recently for an operation on his hip. Hopefully everything went well and he is now on the road to recovery. Best wishes from everyone in the Section Jimmy! The operation prevented him from competing in the final of the Inter Club Tournament, which meant that the team from Tulliallan were awarded a walk over. There's a joke in there somewhere, but with Jimmy recovering from a hip operation perhaps I had better kick it into touch.

This year's Inter Club tournament should now be into the second round, with ten teams competing. The plan is to have the final played at Crieff in October.

The Autumn Tournament for '99 should now be into the second round, with ten teams competing. The plan is to have the final played before the Autumn Tournament at Crieff in October.

The Autumn Tournament for '99 is provisionally booked for Tuesday, September 21, at Balbirnie Park GC. Confirmation is awaited on this as is the date for the '99 Spring Tournament. As soon as I have them I will let you know.

Another new member joins us from East of Fife this month and it's a warm welcome to the Section to Thomas Band, from Scoonie GC. Is this another member for the Leven Links Sporting Club? While I am on about this famous Club, their chief coach! Star man! you know who, has offered (actually he has threatened) to write the Section news sometime. As he is Section Vice Chairman at the moment, perhaps I had better agree to this, as life may be rather difficult when he becomes Chairman!

A man on the move is Abe Torrance. Abe is leaving King James GC in Perth and moving to the Green Hotel Golf Courses at Kinross, where he will be an assistant under Section committee member, John Bashford.

I had a visit recently from past BIGGA Chairman, Barry Heaney, and his wife Joan. You may recall they attended our Spring Tournament at Aberdour when Barry was Chairman in '95 and they send their regards to everyone in the Section.

The next main event will be the National Tournament at Letham Grange next month and hopefully I will have some favourable reports of Section members' exploits.

North


The Captain of Fortrose kindly picked Stuart Hogg's card out of the bag for the BIGGA blazer amid cries of 'fix'. The 200 club winners will be printed next month as will the reason why.

As if the weather, great course and great food wasn't enough some of us got to see the Moray Firth dolphins performing behind the 5th tee as well. The day finished off with an almighty thunderstorm, thankfully with all in the clubhouse safe and dry. Unfortunately the barman's car was surrounded by a lake in the car park after the rain had finished; he was last seen drowning his sorrows at the bar before walking home! This month we have The Open
Championship at Royal Birkdale and along with myself, the Section will be represented by Stewart Hogg and Paul Murphy. Once again I will be driving one of the mini buses. Watch this space!

I A Macleod

**Cleveland**

The new Cleveland Section Committee met on Wednesday, April 25, with a good turn-out. The golf committee are T. Burge, S. Jaques, B. Walker and M. Woods. Volunteers to attend regional meeting alongside Ian Holohan and Bob Lawton are T. Smith and I. Pemberton. (B. Walker will stand in should anyone become unavailable)

Well Done - three volunteers are better than ten pressed men! Two of Brancepeth Castle GC greenkeepers, David [obey; Deputy Head, and Andrew Welsh, assistant, attended a course on the use of strychnine for the control of moles and committee men. The course was run by ADAS in Edinburgh, both men found the course very interesting and both passed exams to use the poison - Well done. The spring tournament was held at Eaglescliff GC which was in very good condition - Congratulations to Bruce and his staff. The winners were as follows: Cat 1. 1. A. Russell 2. R. Shaw 3. J. Thompson. Cat 2. 1. M. Woods. 2. B. Walker. 3. T. Smith. Cat 3. 1. T. Burge. 2. M. Brown. 3. S. Jaques.

The tournament was sponsored by Ritefeed and Alan Cordingley, Ritefeed’s rep, was there to give out the prizes. Each player was given a ball marker and pitch repairer by Peter Marshall who has just joined Turfcare from Pattisons. Good Luck in the future Peter. The day’s golf was enjoyed by all who played and for those of us who had to sit in the bar socialising we must thank the Cleveland Golf Committee for a very well run day, plus raffle. Poor Alan Cordingley was hit on the buttocks by David Jobey which resulted in David losing his ball - shudder to think where it went!

The golf day also concluded with Bruce Burnell’s retirement as Head Greenkeeper at Eaglescliff GC after 34 years. The Cleveland members presented Bruce with a pair of bookends in the style of a shepherd beside a dry stone wall. This was presented by Cleveland Chairman, Roger Shaw, who went on to thank Bruce for the many years given to the Section, being a founder member along with Roger Shaw and George Malcolm.

George then got up and thanked Bruce for his service and proposed a toast. Everyone stood and raised their glasses to Bruce wishing him the very best for the future. Then Bruce himself got to his feet and thanked everyone for attending. Even after 34 years his attention to detail from the first day at Eaglescliff was brilliant. Other speakers included Ian Holohan and Norman Shedden. Many thanks also to Norman for doing the cards. From the trade Bruce was wished the best by Terry Charlton, from Turfcare, Maurice, from Claytons, and Phil Newton, from Aitkens. Many thanks also to George for doing the cards. From the trade Bruce was wished the best by Terry Charlton, from Turfcare, Maurice, from Claytons, and Phil Newton, from Aitkens. Roger Shaw thanked the clubhouse staff for an excellent meal and good friendly service.

Moving on, congratulations are in order for Steven Jacques, First Assistant at Richmond GC, who married Tracy Metcalf on June 6 and then jetted off on honeymoon to the Dominican Republic. Also thanks are in order to our new secretary, Bob Lawton, who is doing a really good job in keeping us up to date with the fixture list and news letters. It was nice to read in the news letter how young Bob is trying to get himself fit and in shape. Well Bob, you can borrow my diet sheet and rigorous training schedule anytime - the buggers are no good to me!

Kevin (Scoop) Heslop

**North West**

The spring tournament at Childwall GC, on May 14, was enjoyed by an almost record number of members for any NW Section golf events with 56 playing. The course was in lovely condition, with slick greens, and presented beautifully. This, of course, was due to Dave McEvoy and his staff, who had their hands full trying to keep on top of the flush of growth due to the perfect growing conditions. Nevertheless the course was a credit to them. Some excellent scores were returned with Dave Cowhig a member of a tough course. The top results were:

- Best Gross. Sean Moon, 74-6-68
- Best Nett. Dave Cowhig 70-5-65 (won gross & nett) nett competition. Over 55s Bill Shipley 90-12-78, Guest Prize

...After all, there are some things even your best friend won’t tell you!
Keeping in touch with news and comment from the Sections

John Walker, (must check his handicap)

There was a special result also, with Paul Butterworth scoring a hole-in-one on the par 3 6th. I believe this is the first hole-in-one in N/W Section tournaments, certainly in my 25 years, as far as I can remember. Paul needed a bit of luck as the week before he was made redundant as Course Manager from Delamere Forest GC. Paul had been there for a number of years, and, as I understand it, he had been working at the course for some time. This is not the only case I have heard of recently, and I think when applying for Head Greenkeeper jobs, applicants should insist on a written contract, to protect them from possible redundancy at the whim of a disgruntled committee member. Back to the spring tournament, I would like to thank Childwall GC for allowing us to use their course, and their warm hospitality, the caterers for a lovely meal, the numerous companies who supported us and helped to swell the prize fund, Dave McEvoy and his staff for an excellent course.

A reminder that in August we have two matches. Stewards match 26th July and our next meeting at Prestbury on the 2nd and 3rd, with the third hole of the new course that is being built, very informative and thought provoking, however, it is only August 26. I will require a team of greenkeepers to get it right and remain at the forefront of greenkeeper training in Wales.

This has further been further endorsed as on May 14 there was a visit from Dave Golding, of the GTC, and Mike Cole, of the WGU, who coincided with the opening of the holes. They were both very pleased with all aspects of the delivery of training, in particular the close liaison with the industry and the short course programme, which as mentioned before was superb. Remember when the short courses are next offered - get on them. Future courses will involve computers and environmental conservation, among others.

Future plans include the establishment of grass species and mixture trial grounds.

All greenkeepers are extended a warm welcome and courtesy of the golf course, but please contact Graham Wright before on 01352 84100.

At our last committee meeting on May 12, the Spring meeting at Porthmadog was discussed and a few issues were raised including dress code, punctuality and general etiquette. These events don’t just happen, they have to be organised so please, help your committee to help you. Get forms back in plenty of time, reading them first and representing your association, among a plenty of time, enjoy your round, jacket collar and tie afterwards, simple, perfect, you know the score.

Oh ay, the Autumn meetings at my place - Denbigh - Wednesday October 14.

Our next committee meeting is September 8 so if anyone has anything that needs discussing please contact me on 01824 710693 or Gary Edwards 01492 593646.

Now where’s my silage bailer?

Dave Goodridge

North Wales

Recently I attended the ALS Barenburg seminar at the Welsh college, it was another excellent day, very informative and thought provoking, however, it is only myself and the others who attended that know that. Remember if you’re not there you won’t know.

While I was there I walked the three holes of the new course that have been completed along with Phil Davies of SDA Training Limited, I was impressed and felt it showed the colleges commitment to getting it right and remain at the forefront of greenkeeper training in Wales.

Peter Thompson, from FG Adamson & Son, has recently moved to a smaller domestic machinery sales company to enjoy his last few working years at a more leisurely pace.

Peter Thompson (another one) has recently retired as assistant greenkeeper at Huddersfield GC.

Knowing Peter he will probably be doing more in his retirement looking after Castelfields GC - the “jewel” of Brighouse!

Sam Wardell has moved from Outlane GC to become assistant greenkeeper at Huddersfield GC.

Ben Turner also takes on his new role as Deputy Head Greenkeeper. Good luck to both lads in their new positions.

A recent ten pin bowling evening was well attended by Section members and friends. Held at Keighley Bowling Centre, 20 or so competitors battled it out for the booze. But, looking at the results, it seems the contest was a little one sided - winning the male prize was Gary Potter and the ladies’ prize went to Beverly Potter! Prizes for the event were kindly sponsored by County Mowers of Leeds. Due to the interest in the event, similar evenings are being considered for the near future.

Anyone wishing to put their names down for the forthcoming Invitation Day Tournament at Aldwark Manor on Wednesday September 2 must send names and payment of £30 as soon as possible. This will cover both greenkeeper and guest. Places are limited so please book early.

Please contact me if you have any news from within our Section at I M. Hodges, who will be cut two mums. For the first time by two ladies. The Purdy’s Cup went to Kevin Hodges, who will be cut two mums for the rest of the year, the other scores were: Cat 1. J. White, Belton Park, 72; G. Macdonald, Newark, 73; B. Anderson, Martin Moore, 74. Cat 2. K. Hodges, Ryston Park, 75; D. Welberry, Kirtlan Holme, 74; F. Fox, Blankney, 75. Cat 3. J. Scotney, Sleaford, 75; J. Hewson, Market Rasen, 73; N. Marshall, Belton Park, 75. Longest Drive went to Tony Fox. Nearest the pin went to Josh White. Trade Prizes: 1. L. Siddon, 2. P. Larter, 3. P. Fell.

GA Macdonald

East of England

The Ritefed/Purdy’s Cup was held at Sleaford Golf Club at short notice as Torsey had to reschedule the date to 1999.

Thanks to John Scotney, the EOE Treasurer, for accommodat- ing the Section event at Sleaford as we did visit the course two years ago in a match against the Secretaries’ Association. The fair- ways have come on great after our last visit, due to the past dry summers and the course was in excellent condition throughout. The turn out of members was the best for some time and the trade members kept us supported with the usual super prizes. Thanks to Les Purdy, the main sponsor of the day. Others were Ritefed, Rigby Taylor, Aitkens, Colliers, Fieldcare, Chandlers, Roy Harrison, and Duncan Beale and Multi Core for the Machinery Demonstration.

The evening meal was graced for the first time by two ladies. Annie Purdy (Les’s daughter) and CATH, from Multi Core, so the usual super prizes. Thanks to Les Purdy, the main sponsor of the day. Others were Ritefed, Rigby Taylor, Aitkens, Colliers, Fieldcare, Chandlers, Roy Harrison, and Duncan Beale and Multi Core for the Machinery Demonstration.

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GA Macdonald

THE UNIQUE VERTI-DRAIN

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- Unique patent adjustable parallelogram forced heave
- Simple tine design
- Leaves playing surface in superb condition

THE CHOICE OF CHAMPIONSHIP COURSES
East Midlands

This year's Spring tournament was held at the delightful venue of Beeston Fields GC. It was presented in its usual good condition by David Ellerby and his staff. The weather conditions were ideal for some good scoring, although surprisingly no-one posted a great score. However the scores were as follows.

Cat 1: 1. R. Barker, Kirby Muxloe, 77-3-74 and Best Gross; 2. M. Hume, Stanton by Dord; 3. C. Chamberlain, Scraptoft, 82-7- 75.


Trade and Associate winner Nick Webb, Jacht, 86-17-69.

Our thanks go to ET Breakwells for their hospitality. We were visited by all BIGGA members. Finally I would like to thank the steward of Beeston Fields GC for allowing us to stage our tournament. The tournament is expected to be a great success and once again the tournament will be held at Longleffie GC on Thursday May 13.

East Midlands v East of England golf tournament will be held at Oundle GC on September 2.

Midland

The Autumn tournament proved to be a great success with everybody enjoying themselves. The course was in great condition and many thanks on behalf of the Midlands Committee to all the staff at Ingstee Golf Club.

The winners were as follows:


With regard to the remaining tournaments please get your entries in early as they seem to be very popular. Kevin Davis would be interested to hear from you. You can phone Kevin on 01203 691160 for further details.

Antony Bindley

Midlands

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Antony Bindley

BB&O

The never-ending rain through April and May created a few problems for everybody involved with maintaining turf. I know in the past I have moaned about the lack of rain but does it really have to come all at once! I am sure most of you were in the same position, all geared up and ready to go and conditions were so wet at times the machinery was unable to get out of the yard (unless you had a boat). If anybody can recommend a quality waterproof that is guaranteed 100% then please let me know because my staff are getting fed up with getting drenched on a regular basis.

On a brighter note the much awaited golf day at The Oxfordshire approaches. The date is Monday, August 3, so pencil it in your diary now and remember if you want to play please return your entry form as soon as possible to avoid disappointment. I will be one looking forward to tearing the course apart (in my dreams!) Actually if I manage to break 100 I will be happy! I am sure the fans who assisted David Gower and Kip Kevin in their opening round were elated with the prospect of playing the course. On this note thanks to all the staff at The Oxfordshire for making us welcome while assisting in course preparation.

I was one of the volunteers at Wentworth for the Volvo PGA Championship, and was fortunate to be allocated Bernard Langer and Darren Clarke. Neither player produced the fire works but were still a joy to watch. It was a most enjoyable experience and would recommend anybody interested in golf to volunteer next season.

Moving away from golf there is a few weeks for the Vardon Rees Mixed Trophy held for Amateurs under 25. Handicap, Sunday July 5, is the date for the Vardon Rees Trophy held for Amateurs under 3. Handicap, Sunday July 5, is the date for the Vardon Rees Mixed Trophy and Monday, July 6, the course for another three day tournament.

South Herts GC hosted this event for three years in the 70s and after a gap of some years, have held the Pre-Qualifier since 1989. The Liaison between South Herts and the R&A begins in December, when the R&A confirm that the Club will host the Pre-Qualifier. A course inspection is held in May by a Member of the R&A Tournament Committee, when local rules are discussed and adjustments are made to those rules required, in order to fall in line with the Tournament perception of rules, and therefore avoid any controversy on the day.

Six weeks before held the Pre-Qualifier, the green is then last feed and weekly verticutting begins. A weekly light top dressing is also applied (about 12
Around the green

Keeping in touch with news and comment from the Sections

tonnes per week) weather permitting. Extra car parking is provided with an adjacent field hired and close mown to give parking for an additional 200 cars. The week leading up to the Tournament is non-stop mowing, with the staff working 12 hour days - fairways are cut at 1.4mm and the greens are gradually reduced to a height of 1/8th for the Tournament. The 9 hole course is completely taken over as a practice area, in fact all entries are extended courtesy of the course for two weeks before the day, but Tournament Tees are roped off to prevent use. All machinery to be used is duplication to cover breakdowns and also to increase productivity, machines are loaned by local dealers and local neighbouring clubs (thanks to Finchley, North Middlesex Hadley and others are also chosen and set Bush Hill Park). Thanks also to David Montgomery and Craig Handside for the help over the last two years - Colin promises you will get your "curry" this year!

Peace of mind is also helped by the fact that if there is heavy rainfall, the local Head Greenkeepers will loan staff to Colin to restore washed out bunkers to playable conditions in record time.

During the three day Tournament, the greens are cut on Friday evening and twice in the evening; on Saturday, they are double cut both morning and evening, the same is repeated on Sunday with a final double cut on Monday morning. The turf iron is also employed three times during the weekend and all this will ensure a minimum stimmer reading of 10.6 6 int and often more. On all holes, the sloping greens at South Herts, this gives the players some frightening downhill puts. To complete this work schedule, the green staff work till 10pm and are back the following morning by 4pm and they will be either at work or on stand-by throughout the three days. Hole positions are picked by Colin and a Senior Tournament Official from the R&A on Sunday evening, with new flags, poles and cups installed. The teeing positions are also chosen and set 4pm to 6pm with markers right at the back so that the full length of the course is played. Sunday night also sees Colin and Senior Assistant, Mark Gray, patrol the course to prevent any chance of vandalism.

The Pre-Qualifier entries start arriving on Monday morning by 7am with all the facilities at the Club already in full swing. A total of 150 players compete for 14 possible places for the final qualifying rounds - play starts at 7am and often continues until dusk.

Next day the work resumes to restore the 27 holes to top condition for the membership. Greens are fed and watered and all tees divoted and the 9 hole course, which has been subjected to the extra punishment of two weeks intensive practising, will be divot-dug using 8-10 tonnes of top dressing.


Thanks to the following: Bourne Amenity, Banks Amenity, Arvocrop, Hadley Tools, Tuckwells, Driving Force Leisure, Ernest Doz, Willmot Pettwee who also sent out the invitations.

Our next event is August 7 Thorpe Hall GC prize for the day £18 Course, guests and trade £15 assistants and trainees. Please phone Richard Pride for any enquiries 01268 752281.

We would like to take this opportunity to welcome Christopher Wood, Five Lakes Hotel Golf and Country Club and Graham Gallimore, Benton Hall GC, as our newest members. Finally, we would like to thank Tony Futter: No, not for putting up with Michael, but helping with the score cards for Channels on Monday night.

By the time you read this, England will be on their way to winning the World Cup.

Date for your Diary - Brookmans Park Golf Club, August 20, 1998.

Peter Hopkins

Essex

With 60 of us turning up for our summer tournament held at Channels GC shows how successful the Section is growing day by day. Despite morning rain and strong winds for the golf the day was enjoyed by everyone.

Over the past few months we have all endured hard work and stress trying to keep our courses under control and it was some comfort talking to others with the same problems.

Now on to the day, first, congratulations to Ray Clark and his staff on how good condition the course was in. Thank you to Richard and Tony Stubbings for making their facilities available to us, the kitchen and bar staff on their hospitality and excellent meals, to our sponsors Toro and Chapman the course owner for the help over the weekend and all this will be enjoyed by everybody there as soon as we arrive. I am not suggesting everyone flog to Hankley but there are so many other fascinating courses out there that are only to willing to welcome us. Personally speaking, I always believe it is one of the best ways to learn about the job and one can never stop learning.

Marc Haring

Devon and Cornwall

I start my report this month with the news that the Region has been invited to have our annual trip to BTME between 19-22 January 1999 the cost of the trip covers three night’s B & B with coach travel to and from Harrogate and entry to all seminars for only £45 per person with an assistant from the same club paying £85, there will also be 20 places available to greenkeepers under 21 years of age at a special rate of £45. The Region has been able to reduce the cost of the package due to Amenity Technology kindly sponsoring the event. To make your booking or for more information call Paula Humphries.

As in previous years the Section will hold six meetings during the winter the dates and venues are nearly complete with dates and venues being printed in next month’s article. The committee has decided for the winter’s programme to introduce a few changes following problems encountered during are last programme of meetings which are as follows: Golfing members to

South West

Woodlands was the venue for the annual members/guests tournament, I am afraid I was not able to make this one myself but I have been reliably informed by Peter Baynton that it was very successful. Thanks are due to Cliff Chapman the course owner for allowing everyone courtesy of the course and also to Supaturf for sponsoring the event. The course that is managed by one person was in excellent condition which was very worrying when you think about it. The scores were as follows:


Filton GC is the venue for the Summer Tournament on July 22. I believe this is Nick Wilson’s first greenkeeper tournament while at the helm of Filton and the talk is he has got that course in very good condition. So come along and enjoy the delights of this superb parkland track and bring all of your colleagues if you can.

On a slightly different note I must point out how privileged we all are to be allowed to play other courses without having to part with any of our hard earned wads. My staff and recently I had the pleasure of travelling to Hankley Common to see the World Cup. Winner, Ian McMillan’s, handiwork. It really was a delight to be able to experience such a classic golf course in near perfect condition. This week we were very proudly by everybody there as soon as we arrived. I am not suggesting everyone flog to Hankley but there are so many other fascinating courses out there that are only to willing to welcome us. Personally speaking, I always believe it is one of the best ways to learn about the job and one can never stop learning.

Marc Haring
receive starting times before meet-
ing with a draw for partners being -nbers know. Your input is
professional

When the trip to one of the top golf clubs has been
be done for all meetings include
foursome competitions etc. Company and golf presentation to
conclude the day. A levy of £2 will
be added to each entry received
after the closing date. As some
members have problems paying
before meetings, they will be able
to continue to pay on the day
without being levied as long as the
entry has been received before the
closing date, any member who
doesn't attend after entering will
be invoiced, if no payment is
received the committee will take
the necessary action.

Richard Whyman.

South Coast
For those of you who have not
entered for the Summer Tourn-
ament there is still time if you
hurry. To refresh your memories,
it will be held at Bramsham GC on
July 23. Applications along with
current handicaps and cheques for
£15 per person should be for-
tered to Trevor Smith, our
Tournament Organiser.

While at Westurf this year I was
given the details for the Region's
trip, three night's bed and break-
fast, and entry to all seminars. If
you are a Head Greenkeeper/
Course Manager and take along
one of your assistants, it will cost
£85 for your assistant. On top of
that there are 20 places for green-
keepers under 21 on December
31, 1998 on offer. The cost for the
young greenkeepers is £45. You
may say July is a bit early for
BTME. At these ridiculously low
prices the coach is going to fill up
very quickly. All applications and
queries to our Regional
Administrator: Paula Humphries,
Truant Cottage, Zeal,
Monachorum, Crediton, Devon,
EX17 6DF.

Due to the success of the visit to
The London Golf Club in
November 1997 it is hoped to
arrange another visit to a top golf
course to coincide with our
Educational Programme. It is
hoped that this will be more
attractive to you the member. One
of the most important things is to
get the right speakers. If there are
any speakers you would wish to

hear, let one of your committee
members know. Your input is
invaluable to us. When the trip to
one of the top golf clubs has been
finalised, we will be asking for
names so that the coach can be
booked.

Ken Lodge

South East
Since the set-up of Northern
Ireland Region, the South East
Section has steadily grown. Nine
new members have joined in the
past two months, they include:

- Emmett Curran has also affiliat-
ed to the South East Section and
congratulations to both him, on
his recent position as Head
Greenkeeper at Down Patrick GC,
and also to Ken Moore on his
recent position as Head
Greenkeeper at Scrabu GC.

May's event was a visit to the
grass breeding station at
Loughgall (Co. Armagh) where
Davis Johnston showed us some
of the differences between turf
grass and forage grasses and how
they grow, monitor and evaluate
new cultivars.

After that we paid a visit to the
new 18 hole golf course under
construction in Loughgall, where
they showed us some of the early
stages of construction.

Following that we had lunch and
9 holes at Armagh GC. Many
thank again to David Johnston
and Sam McCausland (HAFFY’S)
for an informative and enjoyable
day.

Members will be notified about
a golf day at Malone in July, fol-
lowing that will be our BBQ at
Greensprt Golf Centre on
Saturday, August 1, sponsored by
Boyd Golf course accessories this
will be at 6pm and again letters
will go out. Hope to see you there!

Jonathan McCabe

See you all next month!

Letham Grange.
August 3-5, 1998.
We'll be waiting...
It is the infinite variety in the golfing challenge and visual qualities of golf courses (and their individual golf holes), which sets golf apart from all other ball games, which are played on largely standardised "pitches".

A major appeal of playing golf comes from attempting to overcome the various obstacles encountered on each successive hole during a round of golf. It is the presence of these "hazards" which intensify the golfing challenge, defining more closely the varying levels of golfing skill, while ensuring the game is much more than one of merely yardage. Without hazards the game (irrespective of the level of a golfer's ability) would be much less dramatic, much less inspiring and ultimately becoming quite boring to play.

Given the almost limitless variations in the location and combinations of such hazards it may be surprising to some, the manner of their distribution can be categorised as, one of two alternative basic design philosophies, "penal" and "strategic". Not only does this apply to the placement of hazards, defined under the Rules of Golf (bunkers and water) but to all kinds of hazardous elements which can influence play or affect scoring, such as, trees, scrub, topographical features, even rough.

**01 The Essence of Penal and Strategic Design Principles**

While an individual hazard, may be penal in its effect upon a golfer's score, it is, however, the way in which it is located in relation to the route between tee and green and the way in which it influences the playing of a hole or individual shot, which determines whether it is penal or strategic in concept.

A penal hazard generally seeks to penalise a poorly played shot by providing a difficult lie for the next shot (ideally in proportion to the degree of error of the previous shot), whereas a strategic hazard seeks to influence the original shot before it is played (although if poorly played or judged, may penalise the next shot). When a hazard intrudes onto, (or very close to) a direct line between tee and green but can be carried or otherwise avoided, (usually by a longer route) such a hazard has a strategic impact upon play.

Alternatively where a hazard is located simply to catch an off-line or otherwise avoided, (usually by a more direct route between tee and green) it is primarily a penal hazard with a strategic impact on play. A penal hazard generally seeks to penalise a poorly played shot by providing a difficult lie for the next shot, whereas a strategic hazard seeks to influence the original shot before it is played (although if poorly played or judged, may penalise the next shot).

**02 Penal Golf Holes**

A golf hole designed on penal design principles provides one ideal line between tee and green, (the fairway) while seeking to penalise a poor shot in increasing severity, in proportion to the degree of error in straying, from the from the ideal line. Although this is a laudable objective, in practice the difference between two very similar shots, one finishing in a hazard the other just missing, is often both marginal and arbitrary, yet the impact upon a score, is significant.

**03 Strategic Golf Holes**

A golf hole which is strategically designed does not have a specific "ideal" line between tee and green but a range of alternative lines of varying difficulty. Typically the most direct line between tee and green is the most difficult, involving either longer carries over hazards or playing close to these as possible. Other alternative lines are progressively longer and proportionally less hazardous and can often require an extra shot or touch of the green.

The golfer is encouraged to take risks, to cut-off as much distance as possible, with the reward of a shorter shot, but if over optimistic about his abilities or otherwise unsuccessful is punished.

The golfer is forced to think, to take realistic stock of the various options, depending upon the tee position, the prevailing weather conditions and the state of the golfer's game and nerve at that moment.

The golfer then has to make a decision on how to play the hole, on which line to choose from the tee, how much to risk cutting-off and balancing the risks and the rewards. Is the gamble is worth it? The choice is not simply black and white but a range of varying greys, which may be different from day to day and from golf course to course.

The value of a strategic hazard, therefore, is not so much how many shots it catches, but the way it influences the golfer as he considers the tasks ahead and the effect it has on a golfer's mind, during the execution of the shot.

Arguably the ultimate expression of strategic golf course design is Augusta National. It is a testament to the virtues of these principles and the skilful way the course was designed, for a course which can be played satisfactorily day-in, day-out by ordinary club golfers, is capable of being set up to challenge the world's best during Masters week, simply by the use of back tees (although by no means a monster by today's standards) and the use of a number of difficult shot placements.

The course has no rough, only a few trees directly in play, water on...